

Remarks:

The applicant notes the indication in the Official Action of December 22, 2004, of the allowance of claims 17-28, and the indication of allowability of claims 4-7, 10, 12-14 and 16 if suitably amended.

Accordingly, applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter previously found in claim 4, and claim 4 has been cancelled. As a result, claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom should be allowed.

Further, claim 7 has been restated in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim 1, as new claim 29. As a result, claim 29 should be allowed.

Additionally, claim 10 has been restated in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim 1, as new claim 30. As a result, claim 30 should be allowed.

Finally, claim 11 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 12, and claim 12 has been cancelled. As a result, claim 11 and all the claims dependent therefrom should be allowed.

Since all the claims now in this application have been previously allowed, or amended to a form previously indicated to be allowable, no comment with regard to the prior art is believed to be required.

Applicant would point out that a prior art statement including a PTO/SB/08A was filed in connection with this application, and received by the USPTO on March 19, 2004. A copy of the PTO/SB/08A showing the date stamp of the USPTO is attached hereto. Applicant requests that the Examiner indicate her consideration of the listed references with respect to the claims as now amended in the manner specified in MPEP § 609, and that a copy of the PTO/SB/08A be returned with the Notice of Allowance.

In the event that any further amendment is believed to be required that might be addressed by a suitable Examiner's Amendment, the subscribing attorney would welcome a telephone conference to that end.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. James Richardson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

A. James Richardson, #26,983

AJR/cbw

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